



DATE May 8, 2008

Newspapers: Billings, Laurel

RE: Notice of Application for an Operating Permit for Decorative and Masonry Rock Quarry and Possible Bentonite Clay in Yellowstone County

Dear Editor:

Please place the following notice in the legal publication section of your newspaper once a week for three weeks:

Legal Notice

Application for Quarry in Yellowstone County

Gaugher's Sales Corp., located at 5440 River Road, Laurel, MT filed an application on April 3, 2008 for an Operating Permit from the Montana Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), Environmental Management Bureau in Helena. Gaugher's Sales Corp. operation would use excavators and front end loaders to excavate and extract rock and boulders for landscaping and masonry purposes, and possibly bentonite clay. The site would be on private land in Section 9, Township 2 South, Range 25 East. The site is located about 10 miles west of Billings and about 5 miles southeast of Laurel, MT.

Gaugher's Sales Corp. seeks approval of its application for a total acre permit area of 80 acres. Only a portion of the 80 acres would potentially be disturbed. Ground disturbance would range up to approximately 30 feet in depth. If a permit is approved, Gaugher's Sales Corp. would post a bond to ensure reclamation is completed.

The proposed operation has been reviewed for compliance under a Supplemental Programmatic Environmental Assessment (SPEA) for a General Quarry Operating Permit published by the DEQ in February 2004. DEQ has determined that this operation does not meet the requirements listed in the SPEA since there would be more than five acres disturbed and unreclaimed at any one time.

Gaugher's Sales Corp. cannot receive an operating permit until additional environmental analysis is completed. An operating permit may be issued once the application is complete, an environmental analysis is performed, and the reclamation bond has been posted to ensure reclamation after completion of the rock collecting activities. If Gaugher's Sales Corp. wants to expand onto other areas in the future, he would have to apply for an amendment or revision to the operating permit.

Copies of the application can be reviewed by the public at DEQ offices at 1520 E. 6th Ave., in Helena, MT. Please submit comments or questions on the proposal by June 9, 2008. For information on the project and to submit comments on the proposal, contact:

Herb Rolfes
Operating Permit Section Supervisor
Environmental Management Bureau
Department of Environmental Quality
P.O. Box 200901
Helena, MT 59620-0901
(406) 444-3841 or e-mail at hrolfes@mt.gov

To expedite payment, please send your ***invoice, tear sheet, and affidavit of publication*** to DEQ at the address above to the attention of Janis Rorvik. Please indicate that the bill applies to EMB 5038113. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Herb Rolfes
Operating Permit Section Supervisor
Environmental Management Bureau
Department of Environmental Quality
P.O. Box 200901
Helena, MT 59620-0901
(406) 444-3841 or e-mail at hrolfes@mt.gov
hrolfes@mt.gov